

AFDC eligibility for children of unemployed parents  
(HB 1392 by Barton/Parmer)

DIGEST: HB 1392 would have expanded AFDC eligibility requirements to include dependent children in families where the principal wage earner is unemployed. These families would have been eligible for cash grants for up to 12 months.

GOVERNOR'S  
REASON  
FOR VETO:

The Texas Legislature has provided funding in the General Appropriations Act for cash grants to families headed by unemployed parents for six months, the minimum period required by the new federal Family Support Act of 1988. This bill, however, would significantly broaden state law and require DHS to provide cash grants for as long as 12 months. The Legislature has not seen fit to provide funding for this expansion of the program.

RESPONSE: Rep. Erwin Barton, the author of HB 1392, said: "I think the governor may have gotten some bad information because the provisions of the bill are federally mandated under the Family Support Act of 1988."

NOTES: The House Research Organization analysis of HB 1392 appeared in the April 24, 1989 Daily Floor Report.